



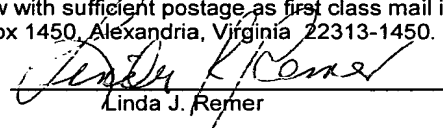
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: H. Van Urk et al. Art Unit: 1637  
Serial No.: 09/890,297 Examiner: Strzelecka, T. E.  
Filing Date: 01/04/2002 Atty. File No.: CE0253 US  
Title: *Process*

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage, as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Date: 5 FEB. 2004

  
Linda J. Remer

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**REPLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.111 WITH AMENDMENT  
INCLUDING SEQUENCE LISTING, COMPUTER READABLE FORM  
THEREOF AND CORRECTED DRAWINGS**

Sir:

**Introductory Comments**

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action dated September 5, 2003. Applicants respectfully request a two month extension of time to respond under 37 CFR 1.136, extending the due date from December 5, 2003 to February 5, 2004. The fee for the extension of time is included in the attached fee sheet.

No fee is required for the amendments to the claims presented herein since the total number of claims by the amendment is less than the highest number previously paid for, and the number of independent claims is the same as the highest number previously paid for.

This response includes amendments to the claims to address the objections raised by the examiner under "Claim Rejections - 35 USC §112" in the subject Office Action and to add a limitation with respect to PH in independent claims. The amended claims are noted in the Listing of Claims included in this paper. No fee is required by the amendments to the claims presented herein. Due to the cancellation of claims 57 and 93 herein, the number of total claims is less than in the Supplemental Amendment filed on May 20, 2003 filed in Reply to the Requirement for Restriction made in the Office Action of February 20, 2003. The number of independent claims is the same as in said Supplemental Amendment. However, any deficiency should be charged to Deposit Account No. 03-1192.

Error in Filing Receipt

The Filing Receipt fails to note applicants' priority document and date which are: GB9902000.0, Filed 30 January 1999. The priority date was stated in the Transmittal Under 35 USC 371; in applicants' Declaration and Power of Attorney; and in Box VI of the PCT Request for the International Application PCT/GB/00257. Thus, applicants have continuously claimed this priority date.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 3 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 7 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Drawings** begin on page 19 of this paper and include both an attached replacement sheet and an annotated sheet showing changes.

**Remarks** begin on page 20 of this paper.